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"To Make the Best Better"

Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Leader

Issued monthly in the interest of the rural boys' and girls' 4-H clubs conducted by the cooperative extension service of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Agricultural Colleges

Vol. I, No. 10

Washington, D. C.

October, 1927

"Boys' and girls' 4-H club work is the most important movement in Minnesota for better things."

Governor Theodore Christianson of Minnesota, Rochester, Minn., Sept. 29.

"There is probably no activity in this country which has a more wholesome influence upon youth than club work. It not only increases ability but it builds character and makes the individual a positive factor in the constructive activities of life. So firm is our belief in the value of club work that we wish it would become part of the education of every rural boy and girl. Parents should do all they can to encourage the young folks in this work, for it affords an essential education which costs little in dollars and cents and often pays a good profit."

Editorial, MICHIGAN FARMER, July 9.



"One evening during the Eastern States exposition last week the boys and girls in Camp Vail and in the scout organizations paraded in mass formation around the arena in the coliseum.....Here is one of the most vital methods of counteracting the drift of the younger generation away from the farm. While still in their youth the club members are taught the essentials of good farming and they put them in practice on their home farms. They learn that the farm can be made a most worth-while place on which to live. Their contact with nature, with growing things, and with livestock gives them a strength of character and breadth of vision that is hard to secure in any other way..."

From an editorial in NEW ENGLAND HOMESTEAD
for October 1, 1927.

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CAMP VAIL,

Camp Vail, held for the eleventh year in connection with the Eastern States Exposition at Springfield, Mass., September 18-24, was attended by the regular quota of 6 club boys, 6 club girls, and 6 club leaders from each of the 13 North and Middle Atlantic States--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. The International 4-H Training School for club leaders, which was in session at Springfield the preceding week, drew delegates from these States, from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Washington, Oklahoma, and the three Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Ontario, and Quebec. One ex-club boy and one ex-club girl, now local leaders or preparing for extension work, were chosen by each State and province for the training school.

The training-school program was based on the problem method; the delegates were divided into three groups and each assigned a problem to be worked out before Friday of the school week. P. J. Kruse, professor of rural education at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., gave work each morning dealing with educational problems which leaders meet in 4-H club work. John Bradford, of the American Playground and Recreation Association, gave training in recreational leadership. R. G. Foster, club man for the Eastern States in Office of Cooperative Extension Work, U.S.D.A., analyzed the job and problems of the leader and discussed leadership training at two afternoon sessions.



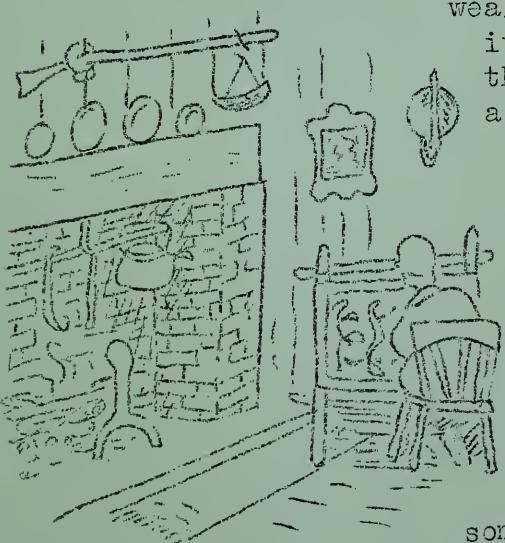
On Friday each of 28 schools in three towns (New England for township) in Connecticut were visited by two of these delegates who came by previous arrangement with the schools to try out what they had been learning in an attempt to help to develop interest in club work. Plans for the day included leading the pupils in recreation at the morning recess period; after recess, talking to the school about 4-H club work; spending the afternoon in visiting homes of prospective club members; and in the evening joining with the other groups from the training school who had been similarly engaged in the town for a community meeting to present the subject of 4-H club work. Altogether, 2,200 children were addressed, 200 farms visited, and 400 grown people told about club work at the evening meetings by the 53 young people.

A. J. Brundage, Connecticut State club leader, says the extension office of the county in which these young people worked has been swamped with requests for club work in those towns. The outstanding result, he thinks, is that many very capable folks are volunteering for local leadership in 4-H clubs.

During the second week, those attending the training school joined in the activities of clubdom at the Eastern States Exposition.

The Camp Vail schedule included three short assemblies each day, regular service in the exhibition booths, and supervised studies of the exposition. There were two shifts for the exhibition booths each day so that every boy and girl might be off duty certain hours at which time the leaders conducted them on trips to various parts of the exposition. "Health" was the keynote of all exhibits this year. This was handled in various ways, depending upon the character of the exhibit. Booths showing potato club work contained posters giving information on the food value of potatoes; the forestry exhibit pointed out that "Forests enjoyed

give better health; forests improved give greater wealth," poultry, milk, clothing, and foods exhibits contributed health information relating to the subjects shown. A 4-H "beauty shoppe" was a club girl's room with two tiers of wall shelves on which were beauty preparations labeled.



Among them were "rouge and lip stick" (vegetables, bran raisins), "complexion cream" (rolled oats), "skin softener" (apples), and similar aids. A style show portrayed clothing as related to health and posture demonstrations and health exercises were given by club teams on a regular schedule. A "fireside industries" booth was centered about a fireplace. Each State was responsible for a certain exhibit, and club boys and girls had been trained to demonstrate some activity in connection with the booths in which they served. More help was needed in some booths than in others, and boys and girls, when not scheduled in their own State booths, volunteered for service in others.



A feature of two evening assemblies was the parade in the coliseum arena of Camp Vail members and the other junior organizations represented at the exposition. State flags which had been presented by H. A. Moses of Springfield, founder of the training school, were carried by the different State groups and, with the club emblems, gave color and interest. There was singing at all assemblies, and a high musical standard was manifest by the club members in their selection of songs, says Gertrude L. Warren, Office of Cooperative Extension Work, U.S.D.A., who assisted in training-school and camp activities.

G. L. Farley, State club leader for Massachusetts, was manager of Camp Vail; A. J. Brundage, State club leader for Connecticut, was director of the training school. State and department extension workers assisted them.

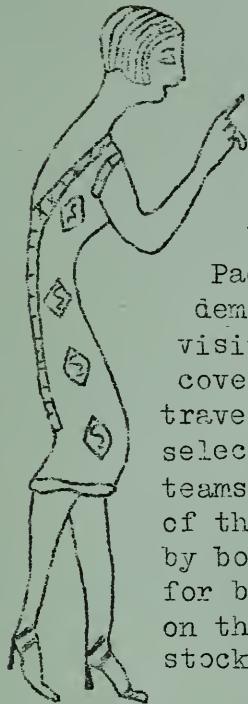


Maine admits "feeling pretty good" over figures which county contests now being held are recording. Figures from 6 counties are already available and show 77.4 per cent of the 1,909 projects completed. In York County 24 of the 29 clubs won seals of achievement; in Oxford County 14 clubs finished 100 per cent, 22 seals being awarded; Waldo County clubs with 517 enrolled finished 87 per cent of their projects; and Hancock County with ten 100 per cent clubs and 18 seals finished 75.7 per cent of their work.

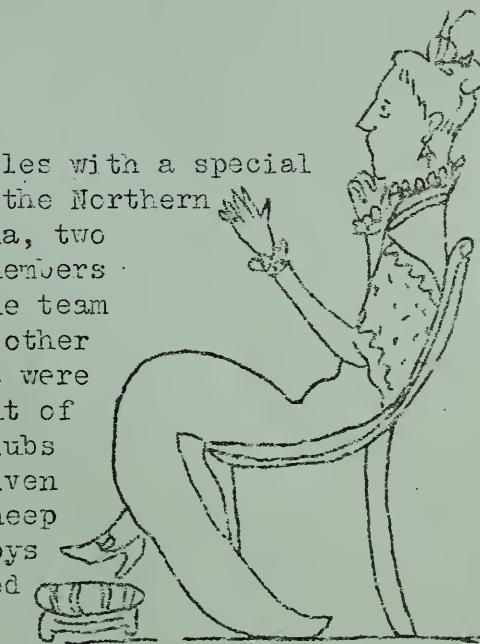
Graham County, Ariz., has a similar feeling. Out of a total enrollment of 222 boys and girls due to finish by the first of September, 201 completed their work and received their achievement pins. The event was duly celebrated by a club rally. Twenty-three local leaders, attending, also rejoiced in this event, seeing in it the appraisal of a year's work. One year before they had met and formulated a program of work for their own clubs, for the club work of the county, and for themselves as a body of county 4-H club workers. After that they met monthly or oftener to review subject matter and to discuss plans.



NEWS



Traveling more than 2,000 miles with a special "Better Livestock Train" over the Northern Pacific railroad lines in Montana, two demonstration teams of 4-H club members visited 29 points in the State, one team covering the eastern part and the other traveling over the west. The teams were selected after a competitive try-out of teams representing the livestock clubs of the State. The demonstration given by both teams was "How to select sheep for breeding purposes." All the boys on the teams own purebred registered stock.



An expression of appreciation of one side of club work came recently to Margaret A. Ambrose, in charge of home demonstration work in Tennessee, from the superintendent of Monroe County schools, who wrote: "Some of our rural teachers, going to open school in communities where girls' clubs have been organized, have been most agreeably surprised to find the school buildings clean, neat, attractive, and homey, and have learned that the club girls were responsible for the work required to bring about such conditions. In these teachers' behalf and in my own, I wish to express appreciation and to commend enthusiastically the girls, the county agents, the club leaders, and any others who have had a part in this thoughtful service."

PENNSYLVANIA CLUB NEWS in a recent number portrays the fates of four brothers in Delaware County, members of a pig club. Three of the brothers purchased nondescripts, one a purebred Berkshire. Let the picture finish the story--

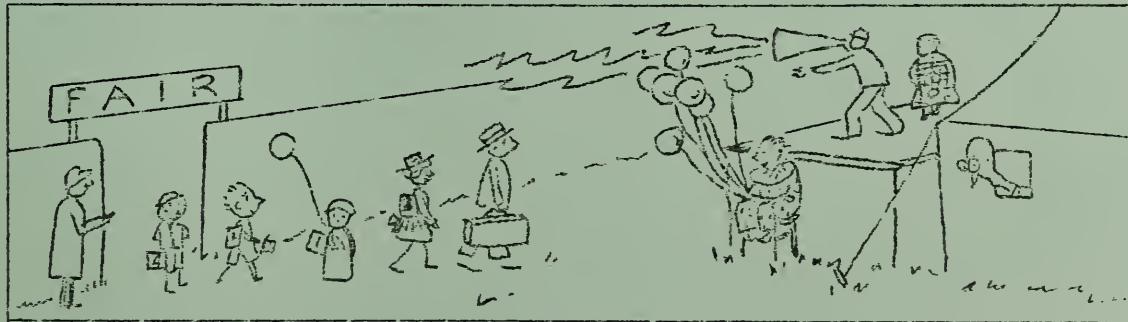




Voluntary club leaders of Virginia held a series of conferences at Blacksburg during the recent short course of Virginia Polytechnic Institute for club members. W. E. Garnett, rural sociologist of the college, was in charge. A "findings" committee summarized the results of the discussions on what should be kept in mind in making plans to reach more boys and girls and on the recommendations for training of leaders. These are published in the October AGRICULTURAL CLUB LETTER of the Virginia Extension Service.

Club girls are directly responsible, says the Virginia AGRICULTURAL CLUB LETTER, for the establishment of a "One-dish hot lunch" in 16 different rural communities during the last school session, and are closely connected with the establishment of the lunch in 13 other communities.

Club boys representing 60 Texas counties met during the recent short course at Texas A. and M. College to organize the "United Boys' Clubs of Texas", patterned after the organization of the Federal government. Members of this group had been selected by their county agents for this work and met regularly during the short course to adopt a constitution and by-laws and to elect officers for the coming year. Homer Sheffield of Harris County, one of Texas's representatives at the national club camp last June, was elected the first president. Counties are to be organized on a community and county council plan. The county council is to select one senator to represent it in the club congress which will be held at next year's short course. A representative for each 25 club members enrolled will also be chosen. Cabinet officers will be appointed by the president with the consent of the senate. S. C. Evans, State boys' club leader, and R. R. Lancaster, rural organizer, of the Texas extension service, College Station, assisted the boys in their organization.



STATE FAIRS AND OTHERS

The State fair is the climax of club work in the State, says Oregon's State club leader, H. C. Seymour, following up the observation with figures of the 1927 fair, September 25 to October 1, inclusive. There were 1,585 individual club members exhibiting, many of them



making 5 or 6 exhibits which brought the total up to something over 3,500 individual exhibits. Club members gave demonstrations throughout the entire week. They also went into open classes with their livestock and crop exhibits and won many first places and championships.

The four outstanding club members were selected at the fair for the annual award of a week at Crater Lake Lodge as guests of the manager of the hotel, R. W. Price. Awards this year went to Viola Hansen of Sherman County, who is a cooking and canning expert; Barbara Dunn of Lane County, who is a champion in clothing work; Millard Shelton, also of Lane County, who made his mark with lambs shown from his flock of 25 purebred Shropshires; and Edgar Grimes of Linn County, who is a rising cattleman and won his laurels both by the quality of the animal shown and by his ability in herdsmanship and showmanship. Millard Shelton and his brother Donald are encouraging other club members of their county who are engaged in sheep work by presenting a lamb to the best sheep-club member in the county at the Lane County Fair. Edgar Grimes had a herd of his own cattle at the State fair in addition to the heifer on which he won first. He won second in open class with his own herd and showed a county herd composed of 14 animals belonging to Linn County club members, including himself, and this herd placed second as county herd. The 4 club members were honor guests at a dinner given by the superintendent of the Southern Pacific Railroad, E. L. King, in his private car. Governor I. L. Patterson and Secretary of State S. A. Kozer were also guests at the dinner.

More than 300 New Yorkers represented clubdom at their State fair, Syracuse, and spent the week, August 29 to September 3, as guests on the fair grounds. Many other club members came for shorter periods and swelled the number taking part in the club parade on the second day of the fair to more than 1,400. Thirty-six teams, 18 of girls and 18 of boys, conducted a continuous performance of demonstrations for visitors at the boys' and girls' building. Commissioner B. A. Pyrke of the State department of agriculture and markets, spoke at the club banquet and awarded prizes won at the fair. Commander Richard E. Byrd talked to the boys and girls after their parade. When he asked for volunteers to go to the South Pole with him, he decided it would be easier to count those who didn't want to go.

Commenting on the interest of the newspapers in club activities at Nebraska's State fair, Elton Lux, extension editor, says that 47 per cent of the State fair news appearing in the two Lincoln dailies related to club activities, winnings, and extension exhibits. Both STAR and STATE JOURNAL ran a special club page in one issue each day during the fair for which extension workers prepared copy and took and furnished pictures. Arrangements were made so that all the boys and



girls at the fair could get copies of the papers each day. Plans were made also to lock up the set of cuts and run off copies of them for future use in the club office. Cuts will be lent to county agents for use in local news regarding any future activities of winning members or teams. One-third of the State fair crowd came through the building housing the club activities although it is situated among the machinery exhibits and farthest from the entrance.

The Florida State Fair, scheduled for early winter (Florida temperature, however), is expecting the largest livestock exhibit from club members ever had, says R. W. Blacklock, State boys' club agent. Part of an extra building has been set aside for the increase.

The Ohio Extension Service has issued a mimeographed report of 13 pages on the club exhibits, demonstrations, and judging at the 1927 State fair. Exhibits totaled 680; 56 teams gave demonstrations in home-economics subjects, and 27 teams gave livestock or crop demonstrations; 24 took part in the style show; there were 16 dairy judging teams and 20 livestock judging teams.

Camp Tobin was the live spot on Colorado State Fair grounds from September 5 to 10, says the EXTENSION RECORD. Twenty counties were represented by 149 club members and 32 chaperons. Exhibits totaled 183.

The Minnesota State Fair drew 1,060 club members with exhibits and demonstrations. A training school was a part of the program, with recreation, in charge of John Bradford of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, as the general theme.

Club attendance at the South Dakota State Fair was selective, representatives being chosen by community and county contests. Camp facilities were provided for 302 club members present as members of teams or exhibitors, and 70 local leaders. There were 27 girls' demonstration teams and 14 of the boys'. Judging teams included 14 in livestock, 6 in dairy, and 7 in crops.

Both Washington and Idaho club members participated in the Spokane Interstate Fair, 37 demonstration teams representing the combination and exhibits of livestock, garden, and home projects coming from all quarters. Many of the boys and girls were entertained at the club dormitories.

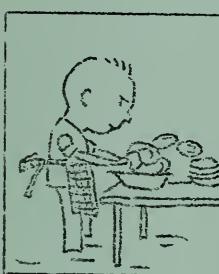
Utah club members were represented by 17 girls' demonstration teams and 9 boys' teams, at the State fair, Salt Lake City. The teams competed for the honor of representing their State at the interstate contest of the Pacific International Livestock Show at Portland. Cache County's team won in the girls' contest with a demonstration on making salad. Utah County carried off first place in the boys' contest with



a demonstration on caponizing. These demonstrations will be given at Portland. Club exhibits of livestock attracted much attention, the pure-bred Holsteins, RamboUILlets, Cotswolds, and Lincolns from Wasatch County, especially, reflecting credit on their owners.

Part of the 4-H club activities at Wisconsin State Fair, Milwaukee, were in charge of Roswell Griffiths, George Aadalen, and Olive Van Buren of the Wisconsin delegation at the national boys' and girls' 4-H club camp in Washington this spring.

While on the subject of fairs, A. J. Brundage, Connecticut State club leader, writes that after the election of officers for the Middlesex County 4-H Fair Association at the annual meeting on November 3, all officials in the association will be present or former 4-H club members. This is the fifth year the fair has been running, and each year it has been better than the previous one. All exhibits, entertainment, etc., are furnished by boys and girls under 21 years of age.



S. Allen Aldrich, county agent of Carlton County, Minn., is justly proud of the showing which 106 members of his junior dairy calf club made at the Carlton County Fair, this September. Ninety members competed in dairy judging. Exhibits were made in nine classes. Dormitory quarters on the grounds were provided for the boys and the high school was turned over to the girls. Notable features of the week were a banquet, a stock parade, and the citation of the Nemadji club for having the cleanest stables and the best dishwashing crew.



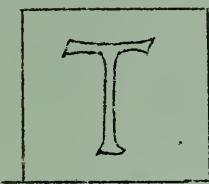
Rice County, Minn., has a county boys' and girls' club fair conducted by the Faribault Agricultural and Fair Association. It opened first in 1924 and in three years increased its exhibit entries from 554 to over 1,500. Entries may be made in two classes, club and open. The fair was made possible by the cooperation of Rice County business men, farmers, and club members, who contributed over \$7,000 to buy the pavilion and grounds. Plans have been drawn by L. B. Bassett of Minnesota University for the future development of the fair. Club members camp in special quarters on the grounds for the three days of the fair. Every township in the county has been represented with exhibits, club members, and members of the fair association for the last two years. Rice County had 375 club members last year, including three State champions, and has intentions in the record line for 1927.

Two counties in North Carolina put on club fairs conducted by club members, this year, reports L. R. Harrill, State club leader.

Club boys have complete charge of all fair exhibits in Madison County, Fla.



FIRST



The first county 4-H club leaders' association in Missouri was organized in St. Charles County, September 19, with R. A. Langenbacher, county agent, assisting. President, vice president, and secretary-treasurer were elected and a committee appointed to draw up a tentative plan of work.

The first club in Rhode Island to have its own clubrooms is the Pascoag Clothing Club of Providence County. Two rooms in a building owned by the father of the club's president have been turned over to the club entirely for its own use.

The first Volunteer-Patrons Association was organized in West Virginia at Jackson's Mill, this summer. Every leader of youth activities who gives a month of time to these may become a volunteer member. Every donor of \$25 or more a year becomes a patron. All members have a vote and voice in directing the activities of the association. A committee of the Clarksburg, W. Va., Rotary Club aided greatly in developing the plans and starting the association.

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C A L E N D A R

FLORIDA: Club meet, State fair, Jacksonville, November 17-26.

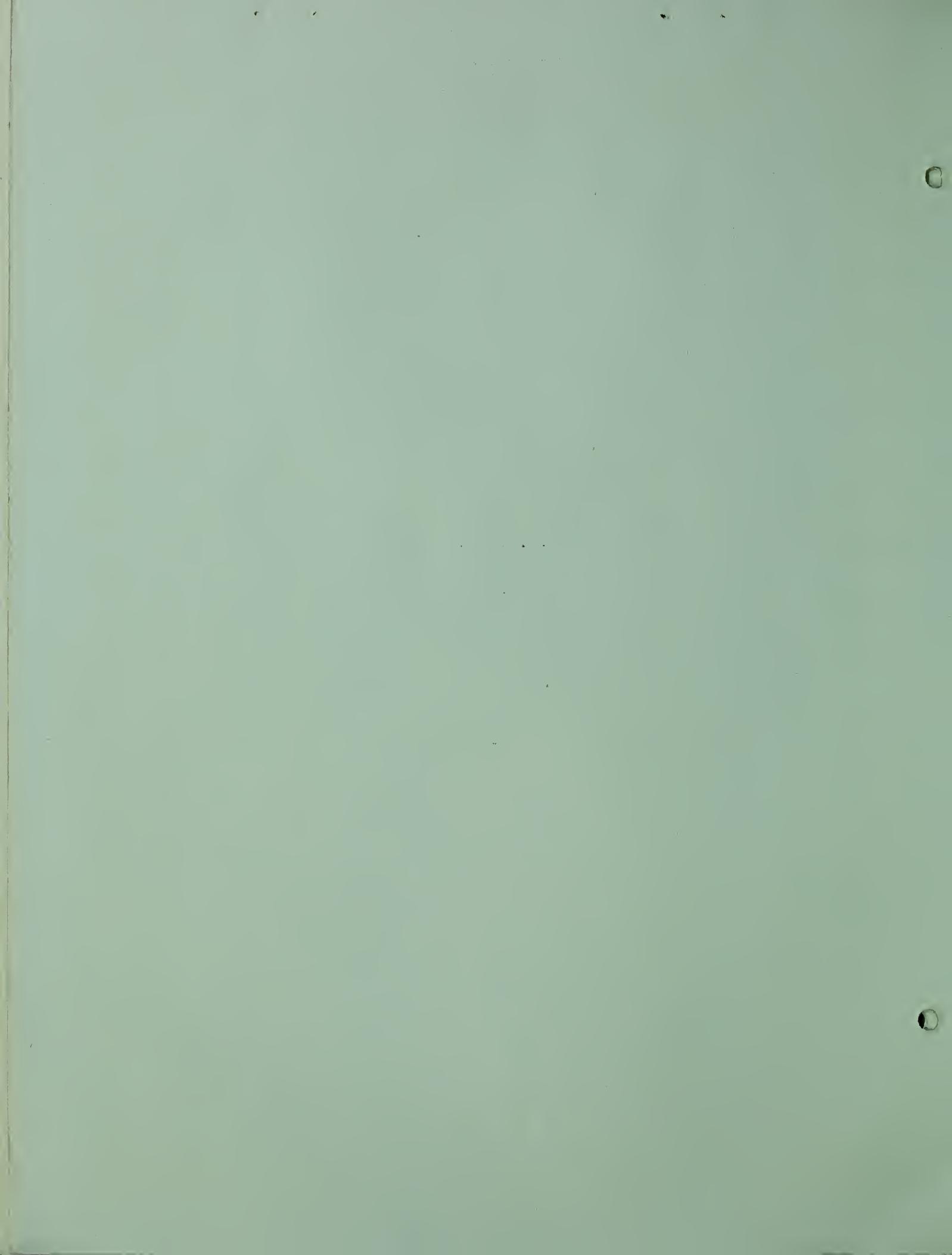
MINNESOTA: State junior livestock show, South St. Paul, November 7-10.

Finals in home-beautification and garden work, State horticultural society meeting, Rochester, November 14-18.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Junior short course, Brookings, December 27-30.

Negro boys' and girls' 4-H club conference for Southern States, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, December 5-8.

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THE GAUNTLET CLUB

THIS MONTH'S CHALLENGES

Alamance County, N. C., claims the WORLD RECORD for first-year membership in purebred calf work! W. Kerr Scott, the county agent, reports 153 members enrolled, each member the owner of a purebred registered Jersey calf.

North Carolina also claims the first club member to have fed and shipped a carload of demonstration-fed pigs. This club member is Raymond Watson of Craven County, who started in pig club work eight years ago with one crippled pig. He is a freshman this year at North Carolina State College and recently won first place in judging farm crops and in judging vegetables and second place in judging fruits at the students' agricultural fair. His only training has been in club work.

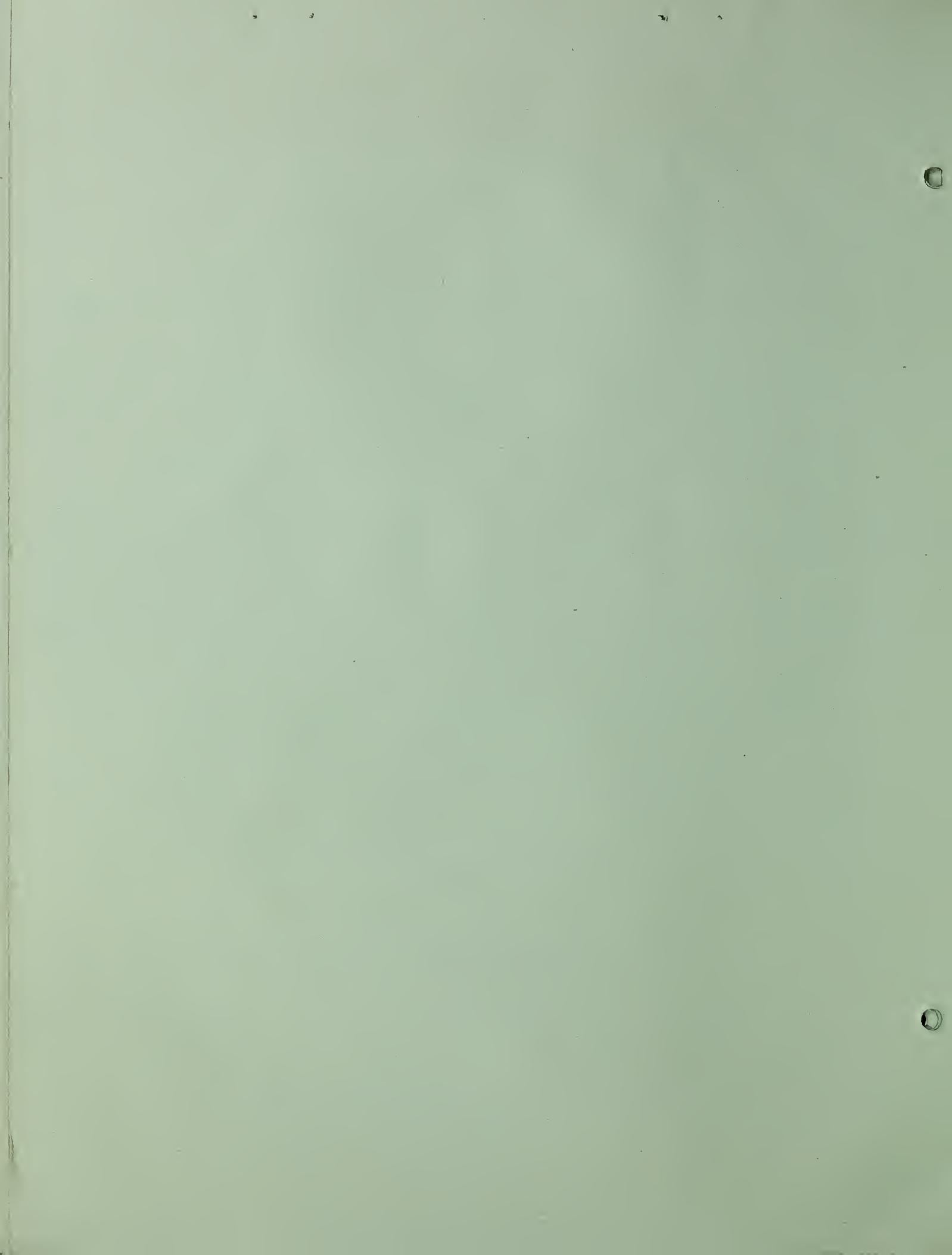
COLORADO ANSWERS OHIO, WHO WAS ANSWERING MASSACHUSETTS.

H. A. Ireland, county extension agent, Montrose County, Colo., writes as follows:

"In re. club record of Iva Millard, Ohio, mentioned on page 8, August 4-H CLUB LEADER--

"Shucks, that aint nothin'!"

"Nadine Wortman of Montrose County, Colo., has just completed her 21st one-year club project. She has done 5 years' work in clothing projects, 12 years in foods clubs and 4 years in poultry club, and has represented her county at the State fair as poultry club champion and on the canning demonstration team; was county champion in advanced clothing club work, 1924; and reserve champion in foods clubs in 1926. Her work has been creditable throughout. I would be afraid to say how many more years she will be eligible for club work before she becomes past club age."



CAMP NOTES

CAINT GEJTE MJD UP AND DOWN



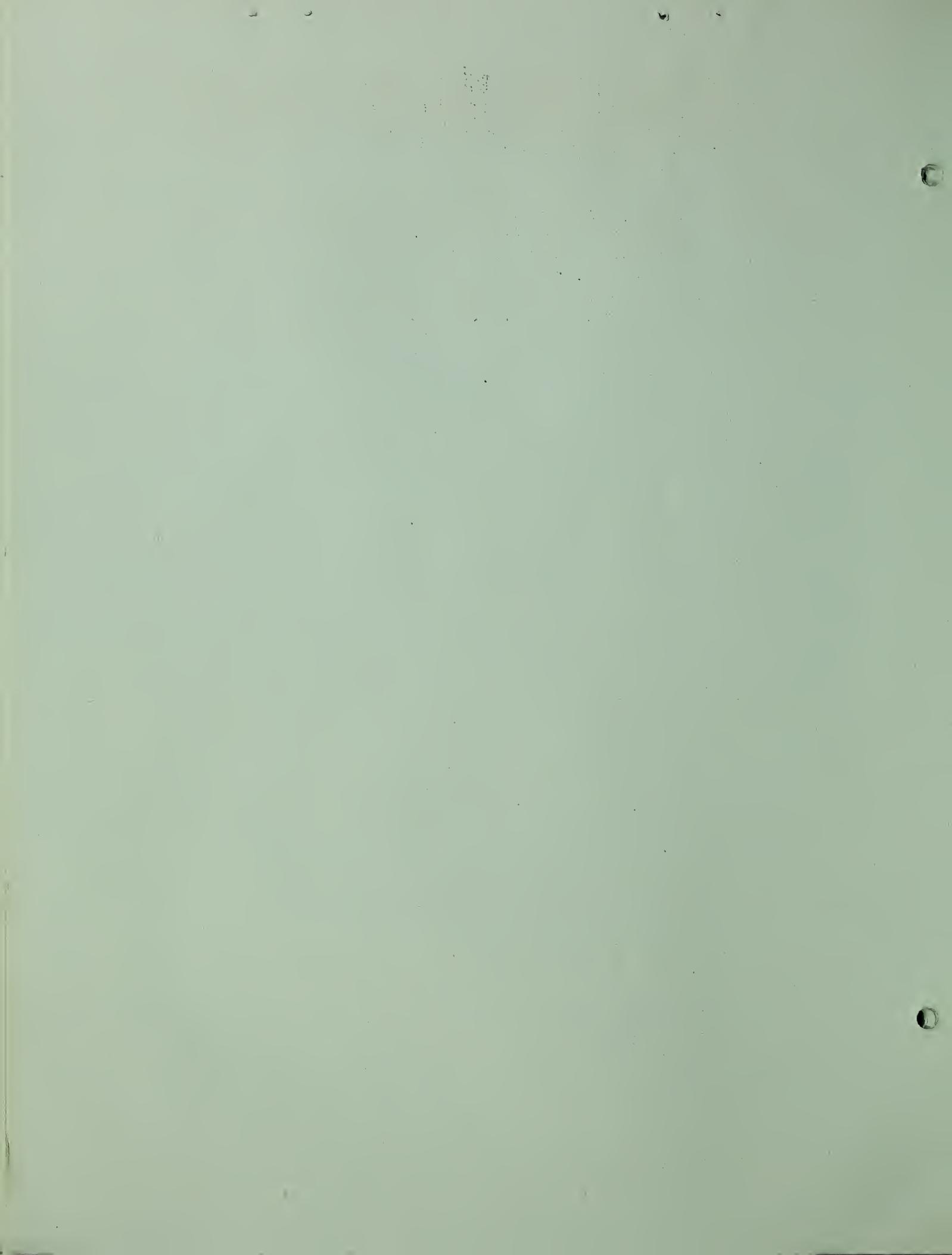
Kentucky club camps totaled 25 this year, and attendance averaged about 74 at each. Altogether there were 1,654 club members and 187 volunteer leaders, representing 61 counties, at the camps. Each camp was of four days' duration, Monday afternoon to Friday morning. A new feature in handicraft work at the camps, says J. W. Whitehouse, State leader in junior work, was the construction of the Ohio reel type of poultry self-feeder. From 4 to 22 of these were made at each camp. Farmers bought the feeders for the cost of the lumber.

Ten camps were held in South Dakota with 1,381 attending. Each camp followed a standard program with "complete the project" as the keynote. On stunt night, the various groups tried their hands at entertaining.

Women of Berkeley County, S. C., were so much interested in the nutrition work on their last year's program that they determined to hold, through their county council of farm women, a camp for under-weight girls in the county. Permission to use high-school dormitories was granted, and the county nurse and home demonstration agent were asked to take entire charge. Nineteen girls entered on July 1, and five others joined them before camp closed July 29. Most of them were selected according to their scores made in a club health contest which had been held in May. The daily camp schedule, although not neglecting the customary training of club camps, provided for the rest periods, recreation, and foods considered especially desirable. A large proportion of the vegetables and milk was furnished by the council, and committees made regular visits to the camp to assist. The girls were weighed and measured each week. When camp closed the records showed they had gained from 2 to 7 pounds each, the average being 4.1 pounds, says Evelyn De Medicis, the home demonstration agent. They were a very happy bunch of campers, she reports.

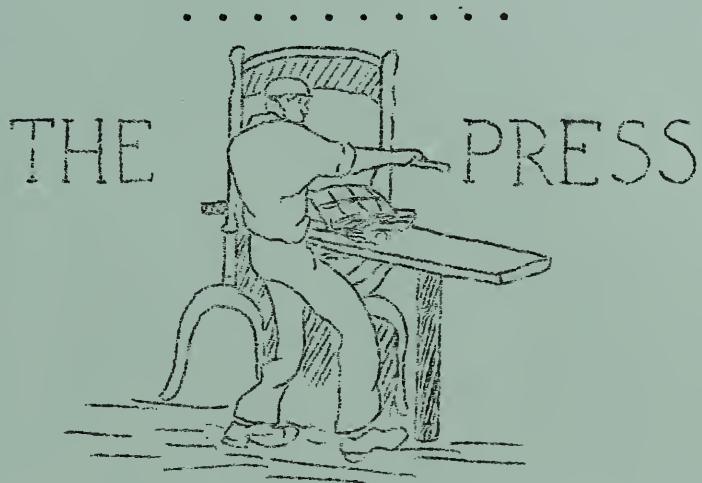
Of the 36 counties organized for club work in South Carolina, 31 held girls' 4-H camps and short courses.

There were 700 Texas club girls and 300 club boys at College Station, Tex., for the annual farmers' short course, July 25-30. Fontilla Johnson and Ruth Edner, who had been delegates to the national club camp in Washington, talked at two of the daily inspirational meetings about the club members' conferences on "service" and "achievement" at the national camp. A club stand was operated by the club boys and girls during the farmers' short course, at which sandwiches, milk, ice



cream, soda water, etc., were sold. The money earned is to be used in paying expenses of club boys and girls to State and national meetings.

North Carolina club members in 45 counties either attended a camp or went on a club tour this past summer. The total attendance was 2,500. The majority of the camps were conducted by the county extension agents with the assistance of their local leaders. Only active club members were admitted to the camps and they were required to have their records up to date. Actual expense of the camps, including transportation and other incidentals connected with the camps, has been approximately \$2 per club member.

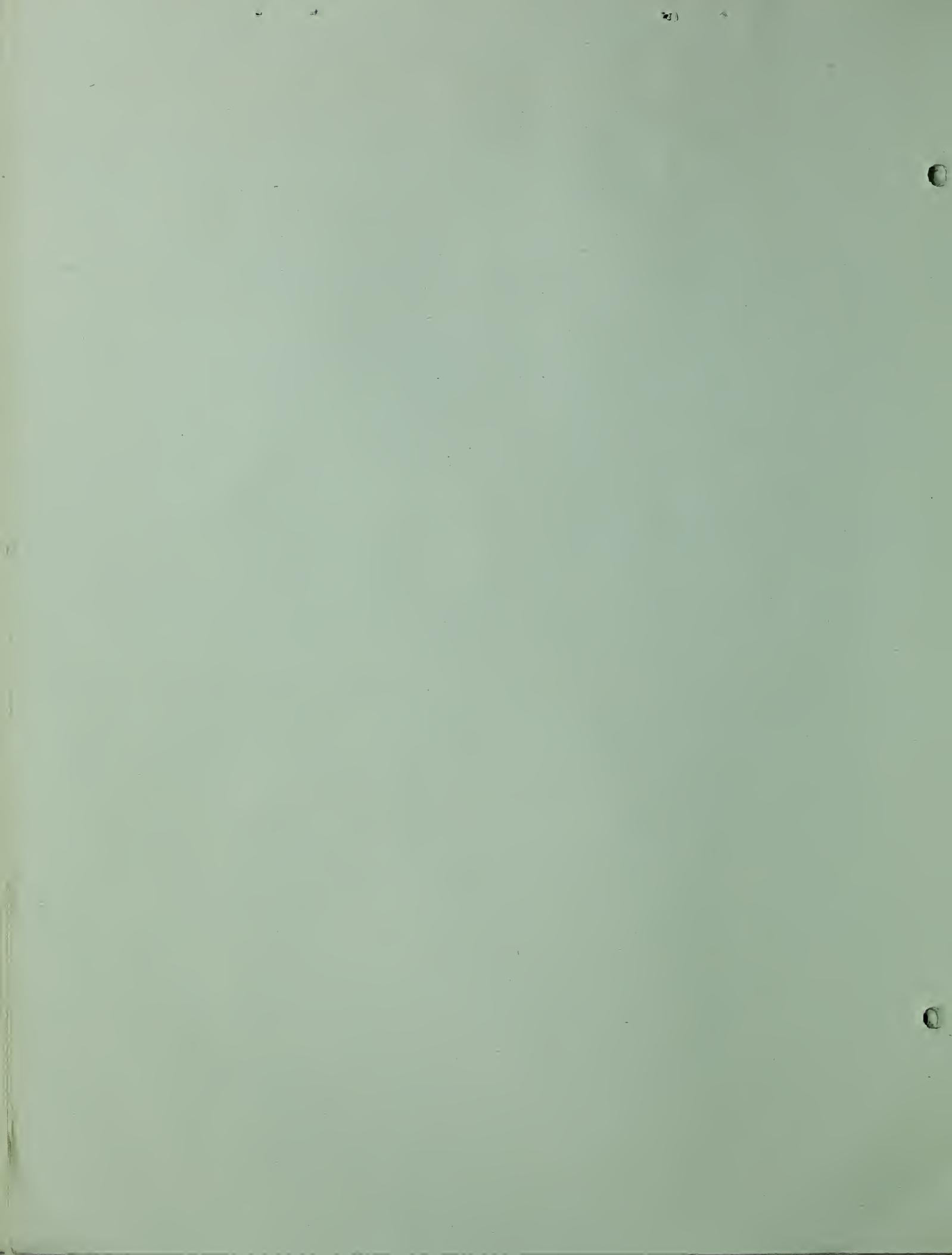


SOUTH DAKOTA 4-H CLUB DOINGS, a six-page mimeographed sheet, comes from the State extension office at Brookings with news of South Dakota clubs and club matters.

Club boys and girls of Thurston County, Wash., edited an issue of the weekly OLYMPIA NEWS just prior to the county fair. They not only wrote the stories but obtained advertising and subscriptions. Twenty club members were on the reportorial staff, which included an editor-in-chief and an advertising manager. Their edition contained, besides the regular news of the county, a story giving the history and activities of each of the clubs in the county. They also illustrated the paper with cuts of county and State club people.

A column, "Around the State with the 4-H Clubs," is run monthly in THE MONTANA FARMER, giving news of 4-H club members and leaders throughout the State. It was started in August.

West Virginia's older club members are to have an opportunity to take a "news writing" project, prepared by W. C. Schnopp, extension editor. Those completing the project will be given the title "Community reporter." Mr. Schnopp plans to give personal guidance to all who enroll.



Workbox and Toolchest

Montana county extension agents are now furnished blanks for keeping a permanent record for each 4-H club member and for each club. The club summary sheet is for use in a lock-top binder and has space for such information as the name of the local leader, date organized or reorganized, number of members, number of members completing, number of club meetings, demonstration team, judging contests, tours, exhibits, achievement days, whether club is a standard charter club, gold achievement club, or banner club, names of members and officers, achievement of members, and names of parents. The permanent 4-H club member's record fits into a 5 by 3 inch file box and will contain the club member's name and address, name of parent, age when first enrolled, kind of club work carried on, and record made in it. Charles E. Potter, State club leader for Montana, Bozeman, sends in the blanks.

"Plans for Conducting Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work in Missouri," prepared by T. T. Martin, Missouri's State club leader, has been issued as Project Announcement 24 of the agricultural extension service, Columbia, Mo. Its 95 pages cover suggestions on how to organize and conduct the clubs, description of the object and procedure in the different club projects and of methods of teaching in club work. Photographs of Missouri club activities are used to illustrate the publication.

A leaflet answering the question, "What is 4-H Club Work?" has been published by Colorado Extension Service, Fort Collins, as Circular 39. The cover page carries a half tone of a champion Colorado club teams, and on the two inside pages are brief statements explaining the requirements for a standard club, who is eligible for membership, and of what the work of a local leader consists.

"Record Book for Club Secretaries," prepared by C. H. Hartley, assistant extension director in West Virginia, Morgantown, has been issued. Its foreword tells why the report is important, what are the duties of the secretary, and how the book may be used. Suggestions are given as to forms for minutes, constitution, and by-laws, and space is provided for a summary of the club year and for records of achievement of individual members as well as for writing the regular minutes of meetings. Examples are given to show how the minutes and other records may be prepared.

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Among Ourselves

"How about a special seal or other mark of distinction," asks E. L. Ingalls, Vermont's State club leader, to put on a club charter to note what we call a 100 per cent club, that is, a club in which every member completes his work and makes his report?"

Mr. Ingalls goes on to suggest a health drive in 1928 "for every club member enrolled in every State to carry on a health project with a definite program looking to a definite result."

Wesley D. Stegner has been appointed district club agent for the southern counties of Minnesota to give special attention to work with older farm boys and girls. Mr. Stegner attended the West Central School of Agriculture at Morris, Minn., and is a graduate of the college of agriculture, University of Minnesota. For two years he was county agent in Houston County, Minn., and for another two years he managed the cooperative egg and poultry association of La Crosse, Wis.. He began his new work on August 1.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.